



OCEAN MYSTERIES WITH JEFF CORWIN AND GRAY'S REEF AIRS OCT. 29

ATLANTA (October 24, 2011) – The latest episode *Ocean Mysteries with Jeff Corwin* features Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary and invasive lionfish of the Georgia Coast. TV celebrity J Corwin (*JASON Project*, *The Jeff Corwin Experience*, etc.) and his film crew spent time with Gray's Reef divers hunting for lionfish in waters off Georgia in July.

The episode will air this Saturday Oct. 29 on the ABC affiliate WJCL/WTGS at 9:30 am, as well as ABC stations nationwide, check your local listings

Corwin and his production crew came to the sanctuary to tell the story of how lionfish have become the scourge of the southeastern U.S., Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea and Bermuda. Corwin called the lionfish he found in Georgia waters, "the potential to be an unprecedented environmental catastrophe."

Ocean Mysteries is based at the world's largest aquarium, Georgia Aquarium. Corwin, supported by a team of Georgia Aquarium biologists, Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary divers, veterinarians, and subject matter experts, worked at the Aquarium and in the field to take viewers below the surface to explore the Earth's least understood resource, our oceans and waterways, and the animals which call them home. Corwin will reveal countless animals that inhabit fresh and salt water environments, allowing viewers to connect with aquatic animals and to learn how important they are to all life on our planet.

Gray's Reef has a long partnership with the Georgia Aquarium which includes exhibits about the Georgia Coast and the habitat in and around Gray's Reef. One of the exhibits is about lionfish and inspired the content for Saturday's episode.

"We are thrilled to be a part of this educational and entertaining series, that we believe will help trigger the next generation of marine biologists and scientists," said David Kimmel, Georgia Aquarium President and COO. "With the Aquarium already inspiring over 2 million guests each year, *Ocean Mysteries with Jeff Corwin* enables us to broaden our impact and educate an even larger audience. As a leading facility for aquatic animal conservation and research, Georgia Aquarium is dedicated to spreading awareness and knowledge of aquatic life, and this new series provides the perfect platform for these important messages."

Jeff Corwin's skills and understanding of various forms of wildlife, paired with the passion and expertise of Georgia Aquarium's scientists, biologists and animal trainers, will combine to engage viewers of *Ocean Mysteries with Jeff Corwin* week after week. Corwin's career portfolio ranges from dynamic television host to executive producer to environmental correspondent for national news outlets to animal and nature conservationist.

Corwin brings extensive knowledge, authentic passion and a thirst for exploration to each episode. Among other adventures which will play out for viewers of *Ocean Mysteries with Jeff Corwin*, Jeff and Georgia Aquarium experts will delve into the mysteries of the largest fish in the sea, the whale sharks; explore animal fostering of Loggerhead sea turtles; investigate manta rays to find out where they swim; and discover the vibrant, colorful world of coral reefs.



“The vast resources of Georgia Aquarium offer *Ocean Mysteries with Jeff Corwin* a fresh approach to the quest for aquatic understanding,” said Dave Morgan, President of Litton Entertainment. “Georgia Aquarium has always been committed to inspiring current and future generations through a focus on education and conservation of aquatic species. This mission blends perfectly with our goals for *Ocean Mysteries with Jeff Corwin*.”

Ocean Mysteries with Jeff Corwin is one of six HD programs comprising *Litton’s Weekend Adventure* premiered Saturday, September 3rd on most ABC Affiliates including the ABC-Owned Stations.

ABOUT GEORGIA AQUARIUM

Georgia Aquarium is the world’s largest, with more than 10 million gallons of water and six permanent galleries. It is considered one of the top Atlanta attractions and one of the best Atlanta sightseeing activities. The mission of Georgia Aquarium is to be an entertaining, educational and scientific institution featuring exhibits and programs of the highest standards, while promoting the conservation of aquatic biodiversity. Georgia Aquarium offers events in Atlanta throughout the year for guests of all ages, as well as engaging Atlanta kids’ activities and programs. Georgia Aquarium is an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums. For additional information, visit www.georgiaaquarium.org.

ABOUT JEFF CORWIN

Corwin has worked for the conservation of endangered species ecosystems around the globe. His popular television series are seen in 120 countries worldwide. He has a B.S. in Biology and Anthropology from Bridgewater State College, a M.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and an honorary doctorate in Public Education from Bridgewater State College.

ABOUT GRAY’S REEF

Designated in 1981, NOAA’s Gray’s Reef National Marine Sanctuary is one of the largest near-shore live-bottom reefs off the southeastern United States, encompassing approximately 22 square miles. The live bottom and ledge habitat support an abundant reef fish and invertebrate community. Loggerhead sea turtles, a threatened species, also use Gray’s Reef year-round for foraging and resting, and highly endangered North Atlantic right whales are occasionally seen in the sanctuary.

NOAA’s mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth’s environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Join us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and our other [social media channels](#).

On the web:

Gray’s Reef National Marine Sanctuary: <http://www.graysreef.noaa.gov>

NOAA’s Office of National Marine Sanctuaries: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov>

ABOUT LITTON ENTERTAINMENT

Litton Entertainment, the preeminent independent distributor in the television industry has been creating and distributing quality programming for over twenty years. Programs include *Jack Hanna’s Animal Adventures*, *Jack Hanna’s Into the Wild*, *Storm Stories*, and *Animal Exploration with Jarod Miller*. Litton also operates Litton News Source which distributes Consumer Reports Television. For more information, visit www.litton.tv.

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